

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for examining the pending application. The Office Action, dated November 2, 2005, has been received and its contents reviewed.

Applicants also express their gratitude to the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and confirming receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Claims 1-3 are amended. Also, claims 5-19 are newly submitted for the Examiner's consideration. Accordingly, claims 1-19 are pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, the Declaration was indicated as being defective because the full name of each inventor was not set forth. The Applicants respectfully disagree. More specifically, the originally filed Declaration listed the full name of all the inventors. However, one of the names was listed in Korean only (Mr. Sung Rak Gong), i.e., the Declaration did not include the English version of the inventor's name. The Applicants submit herewith an application data sheet listing the English name of the inventor.

Also, claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. More specifically, the recitation, "a contour according to a design of the home appliance", in claim 1 was asserted to be unclear. In view of amended claim 1, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection.

Also, in the Office Action, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by MARCHAND (U.S. Patent No. 6,119,678). Applicants respectfully traverse the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, the reference must teach every element of the claim. Applicants respectfully submit that MARCHAND does not teach every element recited in claims 1-3.

For example, claim 1 recites, inter alia, “a display panel having a portion that follows the curved contour of said control panel; and a fused planar contact between said display panel and said control panel.”

MARCHAND does not disclose at least the above-mentioned features, as recited in the claims, at least since the “tempered glass panel 53”, which was asserted in the Office Action as being the claimed display panel, does not have a portion that follows a curved contour of a control panel. In addition, there is no mention of “a fused planar contact” in MARCHAND. Accordingly, due to the shortcomings of MARCHAND, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 2-3 variously depend from independent claim 1, and is patentable over MARCHAND for at least the reasons set forth above.

Further, claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over MARCHAND (U.S. Patent No. 6,119,678). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1, which is patentable over MARCHAND for the reasons set forth above.

Furthermore, new claims 5-19 have been submitted for the Examiner’s consideration. New claims 5-19 are considered allowable for the combination of features recited therein.

Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that calling the undersigned attorney at

Application No.: 10/717,906
Amdt. dated March 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated November 2, 2005

Docket No.: 9988.082.00

(202) 496-7500 will advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to do so.

Dated: March 2, 2006

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